Nov 1974

2p

The MESSENGER

THE UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

St. Stephen's, Milnrow & Littleborough

K I D S

Lord, what a pest young children are-
Each one a rushing noise.
They're in and out and round about-
Such rowdy girls and boys.
Yet though sometimes I get quite cross,
My demons merely smile:
And somehow I am hugging them,
And there is peace awhile.
My goodness, I have terrors three-
But how I want them to love me!

SINCERE THANK YOUS

To: The many ladies who so efficiently clean our Church.

To: The 'Envoys' - for their delightful musical items.

To: All the members of the Ladies Guild who took part in our recent 'Guest Service'.

To: The providers of the beautiful flowers, both at Milnrow and Littleborough. So many sick and lonely folk have been helped by this wonderful service week by week.

To: The ladies who so effectively prepared and manned the 'Thrift Shop' which raised £64.

To: All who contributed towards the magnificent sum of £84 on the occasion of our 'Pound Day Thanksgiving'.

To: Our band of willing helpers who look after the children each Wednesday afternoon.

To: All who sent in Missionary Boxes which contained a total of £34 50.

From the Manse,

November 1974.

My dear friends,

You, like most of us, no doubt have preference regarding television programmes. Among those I have enjoyed is "This is Your Life". It seems amazing that such ordinary looking people could have done and be doing such extraordinary things. One middle-aged comfortable looking gentleman turned out to be the captain of a fourmasted sailing ship. Another ordinary looking office worker had done great exploits and lived dangerously in all kinds of ways.

"This is Your Life" really does give a glimpse of the real person, he or she, whom we should pass by in the street almost without a second thought - and it is surprising how rich and varied that life often seems to be.

I wonder frequently what it must feel like to be approached suddenly and told 'your life is to be televised to ight.' I should quickly review it for myself and hope it was the good part that was going to be viewed by so many people.

The Bible tells us that one day God will say to us, 'This is your life', and no doubt very quickly there will come to our minds many important things. All these will pass swiftly in review, and apart from anything God might have to say, I wonder what, in those few urgent moments of self assessment, our verdict concerning 'this is my life' would be?

May God bless you and yours.

Your sincere friend,

ALFRED NASH

Thought for the month

'For what shall it profit a man, if he gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? Or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?'

Mark 8: v 36,37.

HOLY BAPTISM

On Sunday 29th September: at St. Stephen's

ELIZABETH JANE

daughter of Robert and Christine Ogden.

On Sunday 13th October:at St. Stephen's

TRACEY and NICOLA

daughter of David and June Wynne

Our Minister officiated at both these ceremonies.

On Sunday 13th October: at Littleborough

LUCY JANE VINCENT

The Rev. Dudley Blades (Salford) officiated

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GET WELL SOON!

A number of our people have been unwell during these last few weeks. We ask you to remember them in your prayers:

Mrs. Doris Bruckshaw - Mr. Hoyle -
Mr. Worthington - Mrs. Ilma Collins

Our God is able to do more than we think or ask and we lift these, together with many other friends, up to Him in faith and ask for healing and help.

It was good to welcome back in our midst, Miss Annie Clegg. Keep well, Annie!

BRIGHT IDEA

Keep shining, keep shining and never grow dim.
Keep shining, keep shining and glorify Him,
That someone you meet on life's journey may say,
'Thank God for that Christian, he's helped me today'.

YOUNG MUMS

Welcome to all new members. Our programme for November is as follows:-

6th: No Meeting

13th: Opener - Mrs. A. Baines
'My favourite record'
(You are invited to bring one along)

20th: Opener - Mrs. J. Ineson
An afternoon with our Minister.

27th: Opener - Mrs. M. Holden
'Make-up' demonstration.

Dec. 4th: Opener - Mrs. C. Hey
Cake Decorating Demo. - Mrs. P. Royle

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First the Bad News.....

St. Stephen's Fair scheduled for 16th November has been cancelled!

.....Now the Good News

A HIGHLY EXCEPTIONAL

Coffee Evening & Handicraft Sale

has been arranged for
Friday, 29th November - at 7.30 pm.

- All the usual handicraft stalls, etc., but none of the usual sale of work bustling.

- Buy genuine quality goods in a pleasant leisured atmosphere.

Real Value for Mums & Dads
Bring the children.....Entertainment provided

Admission 5p

A NEET OUT AT ST.STEPHEN'S

It were a fair owd do were t' Lancashire neet,
As we 'ad at Chapel at top of our street.
Parson comed an' 'is missis as well,
But what it were about they couldna tell,
Bein' comers-in.

So I'll tell t'tale straight for the good o' t'pair.
To do such a thing is only fair,
Cause it must be awkert comin' from t' South
Where they owe talk wi' stones i' their mouth,
Or someat at t'sort.

First we 'ad Sam Butt from Ladyhouse way,
Showin' 'is pictures of a bygone day,
When trams comed through t'village and carthorses too,
An' it were int' Mill or t' pit when youngs ens left schoo',
In t' good old days.

Next we 'ad supper in t' Lancashire style,
(At tripe on a stick a just 'ad to smile),
But tata pie an' black peas were t' treat o' t' neet,
An' black puddin' went down mi gullet o'reet,
(Though t'mustard were strong).

Annie Heyworth, fro' Whitworth, came on after that
Wi' recitations that who really knew off-pat,
Wi' 'er tales about beiled-eggs and th'owed village shop,
Who deserved o' th'applause when who came to a stop,
Did th'owd lass.

We then 'ad a quiz of Lancashire knowledge,
Conducted by Roy, who'd bin to a college.
And Jim who 'as a haulage line
Around the County Palatine.
They're good lads!

A few 'd come dressed up in clothes long forgotton,
Shawls, clogs an' yorks - though not very much
cotton,
But there was a slight feeling of old-fashioned
scandle,
When Ivy romped in wi' 'er nightie an' candle,
She's a sport!

There were other bits too that a don't recall,
An' a lot of hard work on some backs did fall.
So accept the thanks of the Finance Committee,
For that is the point in this little ditty.
We raised 20 quid!

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HIGHLITES OF 1974

Many lively evening services have been enjoyed in St. Stephen's during the year, and we shall present certain of the items used on these occasions at a GUEST SERVICE on Sunday evening
November 17th at 6.0 p.m.
If, therefore, you missed the original presentation, here is your chance to enjoy it now.
Note the date - bring your friends.
A Fellowship time and refreshments will follow the Service.

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HAPPINESS

Nothing promotes happiness like
substituting work for worry!
(One could add - substitute trust for worry)

COMMUNITIES THAT CARE

In the heart of the Tyneside new town of Killingworth, a £750,000 maze known as Communicare, has recently been completed. It incorporates, in one adventurous sweep, a multi-denominational church and pastoral section, library, sports, health centres and recreational centres, all linked in a complex next to the town's shopping thoroughfare.

One of Communicare's fundamental aims is to unite workers in statutory bodies, such as health, education and social services, with voluntary and church organizations, to provide a flexible and co-ordinated service for the whole town. It is hoped such a comprehensive array of facilities will ease the bewilderment, loneliness and boredom facing many newcomers to the town.

"I believe that Killingworth now has a national significance," says the Reverend David Wood, Communicare's warden. "I am sure there are valuable lessons to be learned from this timely experiment."

FORGIVE

Forgive - the years are slipping by - Life is all to brief - a time will come when it is too late for vain regrets and grief. If you've been wronged - forgive - it's just your pride you want to save. We can't afford to take our greivances beyond the grave. Now is the time to make your peace - don't cling to what is dead - forgive. Think love instead of hate, and then hold up your head. We all need God's forgiveness. Dare we ask it if we know that there is someone in the world to whom we ought to go and offer friendship and goodwill in all sincerity, And with a mind at peace then we can face eternity.

FAIR DOES

AUTUMN FAIR

Saturday, 23rd November at 3.0 pm.

Opener: Mrs. M. Jackson

Chairman: Mr. J. Nairn

Soloist: Mrs. J. Law

Pianist: Mrs. Wallbank

Devotions: Rev.A. Nash B.A.

Stalls ... ... Tea Rooms

OTHER AUTUMN FAIR NEWS

1. On behalf of the Busy Bees; Jean, Wilma and Stella would be pleased to receive any small gift suitable for the Tombola. Please support their effort and let them have your contribution as soon as possible.

2. Please support the Pound Stall; Mrs. J. Law will be pleased to receive any gifts.

3. Mens Stall - Orders will be accepted, as in past years, at Eddisons Hardware Shop on Hare Hill Road.

.....MONEY URNED

£14.50 was the result of the Coffee Evening and Bring and Buy Sale organised to raise funds for the Autumn Fair Tea Room. The ladies wish to thank all those who helped in any way.

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GUEST SERVICE ...Sunday, November 10th at 6.0 pm.

Special items....Fellowship hour to follow Service
Tell your friends - bring your friends - Enjoy fellowship with us!

THOUGHTS ON PROMOTION SUNDAY

Mrs. P. Lightfoot writes:

"On 6th October I was very thrilled to be given the opportunity to present the prizes to the children and young people of our church.

"When I was asked to perform this task my reply was, "Yes, but I don't have to make a speech do I?" This is the reason I am using the magazine to express by thanks and appreciation for the honour bestowed on me. I could not have said this at the presentation without getting tongue-tied.

"On my book shelf I have many prizes which I received from Sunday School and I treasure them. I hope that our children and young people will treasure their prizes just as much, especially their 'New English Bibles' and 'Good News for Modern Man."

SOONER OR LATER.....

It is a great delight to see so many at the Morning Family Service each Sunday. Everyone seems to be making an effort to "bring another". Keep up the good work.

One of our 'faithfuls' was rather ahead of her time last month when she altered the clock a week early and arrived at church in time for the benediction. Not to worry, she was certainly not the first to do that, nor, no doubt, the last.

NORMAN'S SLIDES

About 50 people thoroughly enjoyed the slide show given by one-time Sunday School Scholar, Norman Higham, last month. We are very grateful to Norman for the effort he put into this. The slides helped to impress us again with the magnitude of God's Creation and the evening closed with prayers of thanks and dedication.

FAMILY FILM EVENINGS

A series of six films are to be presented in the schoolroom on certain Friday evenings during the winter months. All performances are scheduled to begin at 7.30 pm., and YOU and your friends are cordially invited to attend.

Nov. 8th: "In the Face of Jeopardy"
29th: "The Lord's Prayer"
Dec.20th: "The Nativity"
Jan.24th: "The Ministry"
Feb.28th: "Shepherd in the City"
Apr. 4th: "Road to Emmaus"

Not to be missed!

TOY SERVICE

Sunday, December 8th at 10.30 am.

Preacher: Rev. A. Nash B.A.

Toys received by: Mr. & Mrs. G. Kelsall

To all children and young people -

We will be happy to receive any ....Toys...

Books.....Dolls.....Games.....etc....

.....which you may wish to give for distribution to less fortunate children at Christmas.

A FLOWERY MESSAGE

Next year we have a vacant date on the flower list for February 23rd. Please let Mrs. Stott know if you are able to fill this date with a donation of flowers for the communion table.

MISSIONARY BOXES

Please note that Missionaey Boxes will be received at Family Service on Sunday, 15th December.

CHURCH DUTIES - MILNROW

FAMILY CHURCH DOOR STEWARDS

Nov. 3rd	Mr. A. Bruckshaw	Mrs. A. Baines
10th	Mr. G. Buckley	Mr. A. Rae
17th	Mrs. F. Rae	Mrs. P. Royle
24th	Mr. H. Mellor	Mrs. F. Butterworth
Dec. 1st	Mr. D. Fursey	Mrs. J. Duffy

ELDERS ROTA
EVENING DOOR STEWARDS

ORGANIST/PIANIST
EVENING WORSHIP

Nov. 3rd	Mrs. N. Settle	Mr. D. Logan
10th	Mr. R. Gillon	Mrs. E. Starkie
17th	Mrs. E. Gillon	Mr. A. Clegg
24th	Mrs. M. Howarth	Mr. J. Emmott
Dec. 1st	Mr. J. Wild	Mr. D. Logan

COMMUNION ROTA

Nov. 3rd	Mrs. M. Howarth	Mr. J. Wild
17th	Mr. K. Hey	Mr. B. Clough Am.
Dec. 1st	Mr. J. Emmott	Miss M. Wood

FAMILY CHURCH COFFEE ROTA

Nov. 3rd	Mrs. J. Duffy	Mrs. F. Butterworth
10th	Mrs. A. Wood	Mrs. A. Collins
17th	Mrs. H. Whitehead	Mrs. Greenhalgh
24th	Mrs. E. Garside	Mrs. J. Calow
Dec. 1st	Mrs. C. Hey	Mrs. M. Mellor

Persons unable to take their appointments as listed are expected to find a suitable substitute.

LOOK AT IT THIS WAY

Let us not look back in angor, nor forward in fear, but around in awareness.

CHURCH DUTIES - LITTLEBOROUGH

DOOR STEWARDS

Nov. 3rd	Mr. J. Holt	Mr. F. Beattie	
10th	Mr. H.N. Hill	Mr. J. Hill	am.
	Mr. E. Holt	Mrs. E. Crossley	pm.
17th	Mr. J. Nairn	Mrs. A. Stott	
24th	Mr. F. Ingham	Mr. J. Lord	
Dec. 1st	Mr. E. Holt	Mr. F. Beattie	

ELDERS COMMUNION ROTA

Nov. 10th	Mr. J. Lord	Mr. Nairn	pm.
24th	Mr. F. Ingham	Mr. Simpson	am.

COFFEE ROTA

Nov. 3rd	H. Vincent	W. Spinks
10th	L. Kelsall	D. Mallinson
17th	K. Hill	J. Simpson
24th	B Holt	A. Wall
Dec. 1st	J. Law	J. Allison

ORGANIST/PIANIST

	am.	pm.
Nov. 3rd	Mrs. M. Hill	
10th	Miss L. Merrick	Mrs. M. Hill
17th	Mrs. Cickcroft	
24th	Miss L. Merrick	
Dec. 1st	Mrs. M. Hill	

Persons unable to take their appointments as listed are expected to find a suitable substitute.

FAMILY CHURCH READINGS

Nov. 3rd	"Fair Shares" Matthew 25: 31-40	H. Vincent
10th	"Fullness of joy" Matthew 22: 1-10	P. Lightfoot
17th	"All are needed" Romans 12: 1-13	M.G. Hill
24th	"Living like sons of God" Mark 12: 28-34	M. Grindrod
Dec. 1st		M. Law

ST. STEPHEN'S DIARY

NOVEMBER

Sun.	3rd	11.00 am.	Rev. A. Nash
		6.00 pm.	Service of Word & Sacrament
Mon.	4th	5.45 pm.	Pre-Pilots) and each
		6.30 pm.	Pilots) Monday
		8.00 pm.	Young Peoples Fellowship "
Tues.	5th	7.30 pm.	Women's Guild: Mrs. E. Gillon
Wed.	6th	2.30 pm.	Young Mums Group(and each Wed.)
		7.30 pm.	Whist Drive " " "
Sun.	10th	11.00 am.	Mr. S. Hazelhurst
		6.00 pm.	
Wed.	13th	7.30 pm.	Elders Meeting
Sun.	17th	11.00 am.	Rev.A. Nash (Family Communion)
		6.00 pm.	" (Guest Service)
Tues.	19th	7.30 pm.	Junior Church Staff Meeting
Sun.	25th	11.00 am.	Mrs. E. Gillon
		6.00 pm.	Rev. A. Nash
Wed.	27th	7.30 pm.	Church Meeting
Fri.	29th	7.30 pm.	Coffee Evening- Handicraft Sale

DECEMBER

Sun.	1st	11.00 am.	Rev. A. Nash (Toy Service)
		6.00 pm.	Service of Word & Sacrament

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FLOWERS FOR COMMUNION TABLE

Nov.	3rd	Miss A. Memory	
	10th	Mrs. M. Howarth	Mrs. M. Mellor
	17th	Mrs. Brocklehurst	
	24th	Mrs. D. Munn	Mrs. D. Hanson
Dec.	1st	Mrs. J. Calow	Mrs. Clowes

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OFFERTORIES

	Cash			
	am.	pm.	Envelopes	Total
Sept. 1	5.78	1.85	11.10	18.73
8	4.60	1.40	13.05	19.05
15	14.05	8.72	29.30	52.07
22	5.68	1.25	11.62	18.55
29	7.02	1.50	14.62	23.14
	£37.13	14.72	£79.69	£131.54

LITTLEBOROUGH DIARY

NOVEMBER

Sat.	2nd		Family Social & Fancy Dress
Sun.	3rd	10.30 am.	Mr. J. Lord
Mon.	4th	7.30 pm.	Junior Church Staff Meeting
Wed.	6th	6.45 pm.	Pilots
Fri.	8th	7.30 pm.	Film Evening "IN THE FACE OF JEOPARDY"
Sun.	10th	10.30 am.	Rev.A. Nash
		6.0 pm.	" (Communion)
Wed.	13th	6.45 pm.	Pilots
Sun.	17th	10.30 am.	Mrs. Nash
Tues.	19th	7.30 pm.	Women's Guild: Birthday Supper
Wed.	20th	6.45 pm.	Pilots
Sat.	23rd	3.00 pm.	Autumn Fair
Sun.	24th	10.30 am.	Rev. A. Nash (Communion)
Tue.	26th	7.30 pm.	Church Meeting
Wed.	27th	6.45 pm.	Pilots
Thur.	28th	7.30 pm.	Men's Fellowship: Mr.A. Ackroyd "Blackpool Past & Present"
Fri.	29th	7.30 pm.	Film Service "THE LORD'S PRAYER"

December

Sun.	1st	10.30 am.	Mr. J. Lord

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FLOWERS FOR THE COMMUNION TABLE

Nov.	3rd	Mrs. Mallinson
	10th	Mr. Worthington
	17th	Church
	24th	Mrs. Clayton
Dec.	1st	Mrs. E. Holt

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OFFERTORIES

	Cash	Envelopes
Setpember 15th	£ 2.58½	£12.82½
22nd	£11.11½	£17.82½ (Harvest)
29th	£ 2.28	£11.33
October 6th	£ 3.59	£12.77

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The Manse,
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*

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MILNROW: Miss M. Wood
Mrs. A. Wood
Mrs. E. Starkie
Miss A. Memory
Mrs. N. Settle

*